

State Representative | 74th Legislative District

DAN WILLIAMS

Capitol Office:

103B East Wing
P.O. Box 202074
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2074
(717) 783-4103
Fax: (717) 772-9910

District Office:

3496 E. Lincoln Highway
Thorndale, PA 19372
(484) 200-8256
Fax: (484) 200-8257

Satellite Office:

Coatesville City Hall
1 City Hall Place
Coatesville, PA 19320
*Please call (484) 200-8256 for
satellite office hours.*

Email:

RepWilliams@pahouse.net

 /RepDanWilliams

 @RepDanWilliams



Beginning the new decade in style with a legendary milkshake from the 2020 Pennsylvania Farm Show.

DEAR NEIGHBOR,

Happy new year, and happy new decade!

Now into the second half of my first term as your state representative, I figured it's a great time to update you on what we've been up to in the 74th Legislative District and in Harrisburg.

Firstly, know that I could not have accomplished anything without your support. Your needs are my goals because that is what truly matters.

In 2019, I helped bring home more than \$8 million in state resources to Chester County, investing in children, roads, housing and wellbeing.

My diligent and caring office staff worked tirelessly to address your concerns, answer any and all questions and connect you with critical programs designed to help.

In Harrisburg, I authored and supported more than 300 bills to reduce property taxes, ensure workers' rights, fully fund

public schools and raise the minimum wage.

Now that we're more than a month into 2020, I plan to keep standing up for veterans, first responders and our most vulnerable neighbors while pushing to pass gun safety reforms, creating good paying jobs, strengthening our economy and protecting your right to organize.

This newsletter will tell you about some specific legislation I'm working on right now, as well as inform you about crucial topics such as changes to our state election code, the 2020 U.S. Census, the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program, funding initiatives in the 74th Legislative District, and a whole lot more.

Again, I am here because of you and on your behalf. If and when you have questions or concerns, please reach out.

Together, we can continue to accomplish great things.

Sincerely,

Dan Williams

Helping collect and donate food with neighbors at the Diwali Food Drive in the fall.



✓ Modernizing the vote for 2020

Effective for the April 2020 Primary Election
More info | www.votespa.com | Register online



More ways to vote



No-excuse mail-in voting
New option to vote by mail
Without providing an excuse



Permanent mail-in ballot list
Receive applications for
mail-in or absentee ballots
for all elections

More accessible elections



More time to register
Deadline to register to vote is
now 15 days before
an election



Extended voting period
Request a mail-in or absentee
ballot up to 50 days before
an election

Extended deadline
Submit mail-in or absentee ballot
by 8 p.m. on Election Day

HISTORIC CHANGES TO PA ELECTION CODE

In October, Governor Wolf signed Act 77 of 2019 into law. This historic election reform bill makes the most significant improvements to Pennsylvania's elections in more than 80 years, allowing for more convenient and secure voting.

You can now vote by mail-in ballot, and voters have more time to register and to return their absentee or mail-in ballots.

Visit www.votespa.com for more details on how election reform impacts you.



THE 2020 CENSUS

Every 10 years, the United States conducts a census. This count of U.S. residents helps determine how \$675 billion is spent by the federal government and how Pennsylvania will be represented in Congress for the next decade.

This year, it will be even easier to make sure that you and your family are counted. You can respond online, by paper or over the phone. The census will be printed in English and Spanish; accommodations are made for those with visual or hearing impairments; and telephone assistance will be available in 13 languages.

An accurate count is incredibly important for all of us in the state. Many things depend on the results of the census, including the number of representatives that Pennsylvania will have in Congress and the amount of money the commonwealth will receive from the federal government for support services for seniors, children or lower-income residents.

It's important to know that it is completely anonymous. Your information isn't shared, and no one will be able to follow up with you about anything, on any basis.

So, please, be on the lookout for invitations to complete the 2020 Census starting in mid-March. Once you receive your invitation, respond either online, by phone or through the mail. April 1 is officially Census Day, a key reference date. When completing the census, you will include everyone living in your home on April 1, 2020.

Keep an eye on
your mailbox
in March

for important
2020 Census
information.



PA.Gov/Census

The census bureau is hiring!

Speaking of the 2020 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau needs your help.

The bureau is recruiting census workers across the country, bumping its hourly pay rate. You can earn \$27.50 an hour in Chester County.

Having accurate and complete census information is crucial to the federal funding each region receives, money that goes toward school services, infrastructure and jobs.

If you are interested in being part of history, supporting your community and earning competitive wages that are paid weekly, find out more by visiting 2020census.gov/jobs.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



I would like to keep you informed about some legislation I've sponsored:

PA PRO ACT – STRENGTHENING WORKERS' COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS

The brave workers who stand up for their rights create better lives for their families. We need to ensure that our health care workers, retail workers, construction workers, factory workers, steel workers – ALL PENNSYLVANIA WORKERS – can fight for fair wages, a safe workplace, dependable health care, reasonable leave time and retirement benefits.

In order to strengthen workers' rights, I introduced legislation making changes and updates to the Pennsylvania Labor Relations Act. We're calling it the PA Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PA PRO Act).

We need to establish that predatory corporations that violate workers' rights are subject to penalties for worker misclassification. Additionally, we need to ensure that newly formed unions and their corporate counterparts have access to mediation and arbitration as they work to complete their first contract. Lastly, we need to refine the process for unions to collect fair-share fees that would cover the costs of representing all workers in the collective bargaining unit.

By protecting workers, we are protecting a bright future for our commonwealth.

EXPANDING THE PENNSYLVANIA FILM PRODUCTION TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

A number of states offer film tax credits as a way to encourage production in their states. Pennsylvania offers a number of fee-free and permit-free options for filming, as well as being a beautiful and geographically diverse state. Yet states like California, Georgia and New York continue to dominate in the awarding of film tax credits.

According to the Independent Fiscal office, uncapping and expanding the credit could have significant positive impact on Pennsylvania's economy and provide well paying, long-term careers for residents.

That is why I introduced legislation to uncap the film tax credit and expand the tax credit program to apply to digital interactive media production expenses, which will give the Department of Community and Economic Development the flexibility to fully commit to multi-year productions and to more effectively budget for the program. Even with an uncapped program, the General Assembly would need to budget for the estimated amount of the credit in each fiscal year. By making these changes, our state can better compete with the top three states for filming and production benefits.

PENALTIES FOR FAILURE TO REMOVE ICE AND SNOW FROM VEHICLES

Snow and ice create hazardous conditions on Pennsylvania roadways. According to PennDOT, more than 7,349 crashes occurred on our roads during the winter of 2017. Contributing to these dangerous roadways were drivers who failed to remove ice and snow from their vehicles prior to operating them.

To ensure the safety of all drivers and hold all those responsible for these preventable accidents accountable, I introduced legislation that would penalize reckless drivers who do not remove ice and snow from their vehicles.

Under this legislation, it would be a driver's duty to remove snow and ice from their vehicle prior to driving. Failure to do so would result in a fine between \$25 to \$75, regardless of dislodgment. Should dislodgment occur from a moving vehicle and strike another vehicle or pedestrian causing death or bodily harm, the operator who failed to clear snow and ice from their vehicle would be subject to a fine between \$200 and \$1,500.

POLICE TRAINING: CHILD ABUSE

Despite many legislative efforts, child abuse is still a major problem in Pennsylvania. According to the PA Department of Human Services, statewide substantiated reports of child abuse increased from 2017 to 2018, and there were 44,063 reports of child abuse in the commonwealth in 2018. Cases are unique and require consistent, objective and proactive action by police and judges.

Police officers and minor judiciary, such as our magisterial district judges, are often the earliest to interact with the parties of a child abuse case. Our state laws that punish child abusers can only be effective if those at the first point of contact with these cases are trained to recognize child abuse.

Under my bill, police officers and the minor judiciary would receive mandatory training that would help them to recognize child abuse early on and to be fully aware of the reporting requirements, as well as the full complement of resources available to effectively interview abuse victims.

Child abuse cases can be sensitive and challenging to get right, so we must do all we can to ensure that our police and judiciary are prepared to handle these incredibly important situations.



Funding initiatives in the 74th

Advocating for state funding for local and regional projects is a key part of a state legislator's job.

With that in mind, I am proud to announce the latest list of local and regional projects supported by grant funding. These projects are tied to our economic success and often prevent steeper local tax hikes.

Here are some of those projects:

- A \$730,000 grant through the Multimodal Transportation Fund will help fund roadway improvements and stabilization on Mortonville Road in East Fallowfield Township. The project will rehabilitate the road surface after installation of a permanent roadway stabilization system and stormwater drainage system along 502 linear feet of Mortonville Road north of the intersection with Strasburg Road and south of the intersection with Saw Mill Road.
- A \$40,000 grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources was awarded to Parkesburg Borough for rehabilitation of Minch Park. It will go toward renovation of a comfort station and pedestrian walkways, ADA access, landscaping, project signage and other related site improvements.
- A \$12,750 tax credit through the Neighborhood Assistance Program was awarded to Habitat for Humanity of Chester County for its efforts to serve low- and very low-income families with the completion of a 46-home single family housing development in Coatesville.
- A \$5,000 Historical & Archival Records Care grant for Caln Township will be used to have 18 boxes of permanent documents affected by water and mold cleaned and digitized. The records include resolutions, ordinances and minutes.
- A \$2.2 million investment through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for ArcelorMittal in Coatesville will help rehabilitate approximately 2 miles of rail freight track, turnouts and private crossings serving its rolling mill and electric melt shop sites, helping protect a Coatesville institution that pays livable wages to United Steel Workers union employees.
- A \$225,205 grant through PennDOT's Automated Red Light Enforcement Program to install a traffic signal will address a problematic traffic area near the one-lane bridge over Beaver Creek on Lloyd Avenue in Caln Township.
- An \$80,000 Neighborhood Assistance Program tax credit to 2nd Century Alliance, in partnership with Chester County, is helping to kickstart a commercial district makeover in Coatesville. This batch of funding focuses on rehabilitation of blighted properties, business retention, construction of and improvements for quality residential space, attracting diverse and unique retail and hospitality businesses, increasing parking, reducing criminal activity and implementing green and environmentally friendly programs.
- Two Ag and Youth grants totaling \$14,400 will go to the Chester County chapter of the Pennsylvania Future Farmers of America (\$7,500) and the Chester County Intermediate Unit (\$6,900); the former will be used to restore a Farmall tractor and build a log splitter using welding, mechanics and other skills; the latter will be used for students to participate in the Animal and Veterinary Science program.
- A \$68,988 federal grant for Delaware County Community College, including its Downingtown campus, will help expand opioid preventative programs and create naloxone training opportunities for students.
- \$150,000 was awarded to the Chester County Workforce Development Board to help businesses and schools work together to better prepare students for in-demand careers, focusing on soft-skills development, internships, workplace shadowing and career mentoring.
- A \$35,000 PAsmart grant will help expand computer science classes and teacher training at Coatesville Area School District, better allowing teachers to put students on a path to excellence.

DO YOU NEED A REAL ID?

Beginning Oct. 1, 2020, Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID-compliant driver's license or photo ID



card, or another form of federally acceptable identification (such as a valid passport or military ID) to board a domestic flight or enter a secure federal building or military installation.

Information about REAL ID can be found on PennDOT's website under the REAL ID section: www.dmv.pa.gov/REALID.

Please contact my office at (484) 200-8256 with any questions or concerns.

SEPTA SENIOR KEY ID CARD UPDATE

SEPTA has informed my office that it is providing a one-year extension of all SEPTA Senior Key ID cards expiring in the 2020 calendar year. Seniors with a card expiring in 2020 can continue to ride SEPTA using their current card for 12 months beyond the printed date of expiration. For example, cards with a May 2020 expiration date will be valid for travel through May 2021.

Even though no SEPTA Senior Key ID cards will expire during the 2020 calendar year, cardholders with a card expiring in 2020 who wish to optionally renew their card in the coming year can obtain same-day card renewal at one of the below locations:

- SEPTA Headquarters – 1234 Market St., Philadelphia, 19107.
- SEPTA Accessible Travel Center – Room #109, Suburban Station, 15 N. 16th St, Philadelphia, 19107.

The changes noted above apply only to cards expiring in calendar year 2020 and do not affect new applications in any way. My office will continue to process in-person applications for NEW SEPTA Key Senior ID Cards, which are available to everyone age 65 or older with a valid ID.

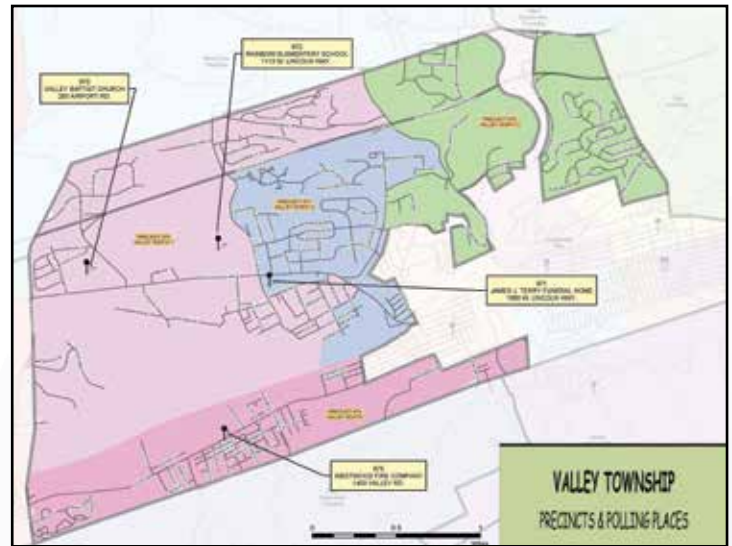


Splitting Valley North voting district

In November, I endorsed the proposal to split the Valley North voting precinct in Chester County into three separate precincts: Valley North 1, Valley North 2 and Valley North 3.

Consistently long lines mixed with unreliable machines have long made for an unpalatable voting experience for many constituents. I'm pleased to report that this proposal was approved by the Court of Common Pleas and will be in place starting in the April primary.

Check out the new voting districts, and let's celebrate this effort to make elections more convenient and accessible.



SECOND CHANCE EXPO

In December, I hosted a Second Chance Expo in Coatesville with special guest speakers and plenty of information on criminal record expungement, the Clean Slate law, pardons and the SOAR re-entry program. It was a wonderful event, and I want to express my gratitude to all who participated and attended.



FUN AT THE FARM SHOW

I had the pleasure of attending the 2020 Pennsylvania Farm Show this winter in Harrisburg, celebrating an industry that helps feed more than 96% of our population, creates good paying jobs and puts the environment first.



KEEPING UP WITH DOWNINGTOWN WEST RUNNERS

OK, actually keeping pace with the Whippets of Downingtown West proved to be impossible for the rest of the state, as the school's boys' cross country team won state playoff gold in the fall. It was a pleasure welcoming these PIAA champions to the House floor to celebrate their talent and character!



HONORING A GREAT FRIEND

Such an honor sharing in a November celebration of my good friend, Dr. Ronn Jenkins. The legendary West Chester University diving coach now has an aquatic center named after him. Such a pleasure to call you a friend for four decades.



State Representative
DAN WILLIAMS

3496 E. Lincoln Highway
Thorndale, PA 19372

lpo.kaf.0220

Property Tax/ Rent Rebate Program



Application forms for the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program are available for eligible Pennsylvanians to begin claiming rebates on property taxes or rent paid in 2019. The deadline to apply is June 30.

It's free to apply for a rebate, and my office can assist. Call us at (484) 200-8256 for help.

Claimants must reapply for rebates every year because rebates are based on annual income and property taxes or rent paid in each year. Spouses, personal representatives or estates may file rebate claims on behalf of claimants who lived at least one day in 2019 and meet all other eligibility requirements.

MY OFFICE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- SEPTA passes
 - Car registrations, special tags, handicap placards, titles and driver's license applications
 - Information on financial assistance for higher education
 - Assistance in obtaining and completing state forms of all kinds
 - Voter registration and absentee ballot applications
 - Unemployment compensation, disability and workers' compensation
 - Birth and death certificates
 - Problems with the Department of Human Services (food stamps, medical and income assistance)
 - Pennsylvania income tax questions or problems
 - Requests for literature of all kinds – bills, regulations, statutes, Pennsylvania maps, senior citizen information
 - Citations from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for outstanding accomplishments and family milestones
 - Complaints or questions about utilities and the Public Utility Commission
 - Complaints and problems with insurance companies
 - Renewal of state-issued licenses or certifications
 - PACE cards for senior citizens
 - Property Tax/Rent Rebate problems or questions
 - Problems or questions about the state lottery
 - Consumer complaints
 - Liquor Control Board concerns or questions
 - Tours of the state Capitol for individuals or groups
 - Information about federal, state and local government agencies
 - Notary services
- If you need help with any state government-related services, please feel free to contact my office at (484) 200-8256 for assistance.**